

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claims 28, 29, 38-43 as indicated below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended) A fitting for a cable having a composite core comprising:

a collet comprised of one or more sections that form a truncated conical shape, the truncated conical shape defining an exterior of the collet, the shape of the collet comprising an outer diameter that increases from a first end to a second end creating an outside slope to slide within a collet housing, the collet defining a concentrically oriented lumen, the lumen having a length and a substantially constant interior radius along the length to receive the composite core, the composite core having a structure to fit the lumen, said lumen configured and dimensioned to frictionally engage the composite core for the length of the lumen, the interior radius of the lumen configured and dimensioned to maintain the structure of the composite core; and

a collet housing having a first open end to allow the collet to fit into the collet housing and a second open end having a smaller internal diameter than the first open end, the housing having a funnel-shaped interior configured and dimensioned to fit the outside slope of the collet to enable the collet to slide into the collet housing, the funnel shaped interior of the housing configured and dimensioned to apply increasing compressive forces to the exterior of the collet as the collet is further compressed into the collet housing without allowing the collet to be forcibly pulled through the second open end of the collet housing.

29. (Currently Amended) A fitting according to claim 28, wherein the second open end of the collet housing is configured and dimensioned to allow a portion of the first end of the collet

to extend beyond the second end of the collet housing to facilitate distribution of frictional force between the core and the lumen.

30. (Previously presented) A fitting according to claim 28, wherein the fitting further comprises an implement that engages with the first open end of the collet housing to enable connection to a second collet housing.

31. (Previously presented) A fitting according to claim 30, wherein the implement that engages with the first open end of the collet housing acts to drive the collet into the housing and initiate compression of the collet against the composite core.

32. (Previously presented) A fitting according to claim 28, wherein the collet housing comprises a rigid material that enables the collet housing to retain its shape when tension is applied to the composite core and the collet is pulled into the collet housing.

33. (Previously presented) A fitting according to claim 28, wherein the collet comprises at least two sections of equal size and shape that fit together to form the collet.

34. (Previously presented) A fitting according to claim 28, wherein the collet comprises more than one section, each section identical in size and shape that fit together to form the collet.

35. (Previously presented) A fitting according to claim 28, wherein the fitting further comprises a connecting element that couples two or more fittings together to form a splice.

36. (Previously presented) A fitting according to claim 28, wherein the fitting further comprises a connector for operably engaging the fitting to a structure to form a dead-end.

37. (Previously presented) A fitting according to claim 28, wherein the fitting further comprises an aluminum housing that couples with one or more fittings to electrically connect a conductor of a first cable with a conductor of a second cable.

38. (Currently Amended) A dead end fitting for a core of an electrical power cable, the fitting comprising:

a connecting device for operably engaging the dead end fitting and a support structure;
a collet housing operable with the connecting device, the housing defining a funnel shaped interior, the funnel shaped interior defining a first open end configured to receive a conical shaped collet and a second open end configured and dimensioned to seat a tapered end of the conical shaped collet and to receive a length of composite core; and

a conical shaped collet comprised of one or more sections that form a tapered conical shape, the conical shape configured to fit within the funnel shaped interior of the collet housing, the collet defining a concentrically oriented lumen for receiving and frictionally engaging the core, the lumen defining an interior ~~radius~~ configured and dimensioned having a substantially constant diameter to substantially conform to an outer shape and size of the core, the interior of the lumen configured and dimensioned to maintain the outer shape and size of the core.

39. (Currently Amended) A dead end fitting according to claim 38, wherein the connecting device further comprises a compression element to further force the conical shaped collet into the collet housing.

40. (Currently Amended) A dead end fitting according to claim 38, wherein the second end of the collet housing is configured and dimensioned to allow the tapered end of the conical shaped collet to extend beyond the second end of the collet housing.

41. (Currently Amended) A fitting according to claim 38, wherein the collet housing comprises a rigid material that enables the collet housing to retain its shape when tension is applied to the composite core and the conical shaped collet is pulled into the collet housing.

42. (Currently Amended) A fitting according to claim 38, wherein the conical shaped collet comprises two sections that fit together to form the conical shaped collet.

43. (Currently Amended) A fitting according to claim 38, wherein the conical shaped collet comprises more than one section, each section identical in size and shape that fit together to form the collet.

44. (Previously presented) A fitting according to claim 38, wherein the fitting further comprises an aluminum housing that couples with one or more fittings to electrically connect a conductor of a first cable with a conductor of a second cable.